



**SF Environment**

**Our home. Our city. Our planet.**



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Mayor

JARED BLUMENFELD  
Director

March 17, 2005

Phil Isenberg  
Chair, MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force  
California Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Isenberg and members of the Task Force,

Last year Governor Schwarzenegger made a strong commitment to ocean conservation with his Ocean Action Plan, and as part of that commitment the administration created the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative to implement this 1999 law. We applaud the dedicated members of the Task Force for undertaking this vital project.

We understand that one of the first decision before the Task Force is the selection of an initial study area between Point Arena and Point Conception. Although the Marine Life Protection Act will eventually be implemented state-wide, the state has decided to phase in regions so it can target its resources effectively. We encourage you to include San Francisco's ocean coastline in this first study area, as well as the coastline stretching further north, to Bodega Bay. As the most populous coastal city in the region, we not only have an interest in the protection and sustainable use of our urban coastline but we also have many residents who routinely travel to our neighboring coastal counties to enjoy the ocean. In designing a system of marine protected areas for the region, it is essential to consider the human connections along the Central Coast as well as the biological and ecological connections.

The state has made the MLPA Initiative a priority. We urge you to take advantage of the attention and study the largest possible area now, thus offering the most benefits to the greatest number of people and ocean resources. The City and County of San Francisco share a concern for the future of our underwater wildlife and habitats and we look forward to working with you as the Initiative progresses.

Sincerely,

Jared Blumenfeld  
Director